AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring communications usage, comprising:

receiving a call routed from a dialed number in a native transport network to a virtual telephone number in a service-providing network, the native transport network having limited or no capability of providing advanced telephony service;

providing the advanced telephony service to the call, wherein the virtual telephone number utilizes the intelligent services provided by the service-providing network;

routing the [[said]] call from the service-providing network to a terminating network destination; and

monitoring a duration of the [[said]] call traversing the service-providing network.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising monitoring a status of the [[said]] call.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising routing the [[said]] call to an original destination via the ~~separate~~ native transport network.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the [[said]] service-providing network is ~~a network~~ selected from the group consisting of a wireline network, a wireless network, and a packet-switching network.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising associating the virtual telephone number to a wireless telephone number existing in the native transport network.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising associating the virtual telephone number to another telephone number existing in the native transport network.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the [[said]] native transport network is ~~a network~~ selected from the group consisting of a wireline network, a wireless network, and a packet-switching network.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising billing a telecommunications provider of the [[said]] native transport network for [[said]] monitoring the duration of the call.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising billing a subscriber based on the [[said]] duration of the [[said]] call.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for monitoring communications usage, the system operative to:

a processor executing software stored in memory that causes the processor to:

receive a call routed from a dialed number in a native transport network to a virtual telephone number in a service-providing network, the native transport network having limited or no capability of providing advanced telephony service;

provide the advanced telephony service to the call, wherein the virtual telephone number utilizes the intelligent services provided by the service-providing network;

route the [[said]] call from the service-providing network to a terminating network destination; and

monitor a duration of the [[said]] call traversing the service-providing network.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the software further causes the processor to ~~further operative to~~ monitor a status of the call.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the software further causes the processor to ~~further operative to~~ route the [[said]] call to an original destination via the ~~separate~~ native transport network.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the software further causes the processor to ~~further operative to~~ associate the virtual telephone number to another telephone number existing in the native transport network.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the software further causes the processor to ~~further operative to~~ associate the virtual telephone number to a packet voice-based telephone number existing in the native transport network.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the [[said]] service-providing network comprises an Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN).

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the [[said]] service-providing network comprises a packet-switching network.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the software further causes the processor to modify ~~service-providing network modifies~~ messages accompanying the call so that the call is not routed back to the service-providing network in an endless loop.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the software further causes the processor to modify ~~service-providing network modifies~~ caller information associated with the call.

20. (Cancel)